

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for form 1449A/PTO				<b>Complete If Known</b>	
<b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b>				<b>Application Number</b>	Not Yet Assigned
				<b>Filing Date</b>	On Even Date Herewith
				<b>First Named Inventor</b>	E. ISHIKAWA, et al.
				<b>Art Unit</b>	Not Yet Assigned
				<b>Examiner Name</b>	Not Yet Assigned
Sheet	1	of	1	<b>Attorney Docket Number</b>	501.35917CC5

<b>U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS</b>						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Document Number		Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear <i>(CLAS Sub Categories)</i>
		Number-Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)	/			
PL		5,644,539	/	07/97	Yamagami et al.	
		5,561,627	/	10/96	Matsubara et al.	
		5,444,664	/	08/95	Kuroda et al.	
		5,537,073	/	07/96	Airomoto	
		5,991,221	/	11/99	Ishikawa et al.	
		4,229,667	/	10/80	Heimbigner et al.	
		6,154,412	/	11/00	Ishikawa et al.	
		4,962,484	/	10/90	Takeshima	
		6,407,959	/	06/2002	Ishikawa et al	
		5,694,611	/	12/1997	T. Matsubara	
PL		5,461,584	/	10/1995	Ikuta	

<b>FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS</b>						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document		Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Country Code <sup>3</sup> -Number <sup>4</sup> -Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)	/			
PL		JP 8-18408	/	01/96		
PL		JP 2-307259	/	12/90		

<b>OTHER PRIOR ART—NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS</b>					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher city and/or country where published			

Examiner Signature	<i>[Signature]</i>	Date Considered	5/04
--------------------	--------------------	-----------------	------

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<sup>1</sup>Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup>See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04. <sup>3</sup>Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard St.3). <sup>4</sup>For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup>Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 18 if possible. <sup>6</sup>Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.